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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/673,371 Confirmation No. : 4377
First Named Inventor : Eisuke WAYAMA
Filed : September 30, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3747
Examiner : T. M. ARGENBRIGHT
Docket No. : 056207.48275C5
Customer No. : 23911
Title : Throttle Apparatus for an Internal Combustion
Engine

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

English abstracts are submitted herewith for the references listed on the PTO 1449 as AC-AD.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding European Search Report dated March 8, 2005 citing the documents listed on the PTO 1449 as AB and AD. Applicant also encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding European Search Report dated March 4, 2005 citing the documents listed on the PTO 1449 as AA and AC. Both Search Reports include an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 056207.48275C5.

Respectfully submitted,

April 11, 2005



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

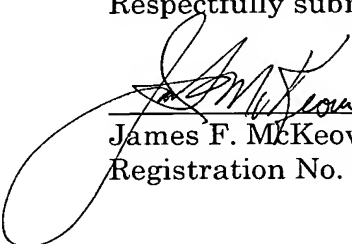
Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

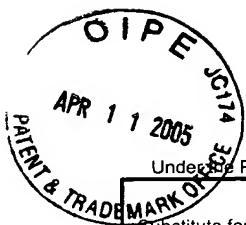
I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/673,371
		Filing Date	September 30, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Eisuke WAYAMA
		Art Unit	3747
Sheet 1 of 1	Examiner Name	T. M. ARGENBRIGHT	
	Attorney Docket Number	056207.48275C5	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
	AA	US- 4,909,212		03-20-1990	Toshimichi Minowa et al.	
	AB	US- 4,651,041		03-17-1987	Manabu Shiraki et al.	
		US-				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AC	JP 07097950	04-11-1995	Nippondenso Co., Ltd.		AB
	AD	DE 19512444	10-05-1995	Nippondenso Co., Ltd.		AB

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.